

Synopsis of federal regulations applicable to migratory bird hunting

Federal regulations regarding bird hunting are described in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). These can be found at www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html. The regulations below can be found at 50 CFR 20.21 unless otherwise noted. An electronic version of these regulations can be found by downloading this booklet as a PDF at www.azgfd.gov/rules.

BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT – For hunts in Units 30A, 30B, 31, and 32 – Three (3) sandhill cranes per calendar year. For hunts in Gillespie Dam Hunt Area in Unit 39 – One (1) sandhill crane per calendar year.

WEAPON – Migratory game birds may be taken only with a 10 gauge or smaller shotgun capable of holding not more than three shells unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so the gun's total capacity does not exceed three shells. Birds may also be taken by falconry or by bow and arrow, or crossbow.

NON-TOXIC SHOT – Non-toxic shot is not required for hunting cranes, however, no person may take waterfowl or coots while possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than approved non-toxic shot.

MOTOR-VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS – No person may take migratory game birds from or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind. Special regulations govern handicapped hunters.

WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS – Migratory game birds may not be taken from or by means of any watercraft or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress there from has ceased. A watercraft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds but no shooting is permitted while the watercraft is underway. Migratory game birds may not be taken from or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water. No person shall take migratory game birds by means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.

DECOYS, CALLS AND BAITING – Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of live decoys, recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. It is illegal to take birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the complete removal of all bait. It is legal to take

migratory game birds, except waterfowl, coots and cranes, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

RETRIEVAL AND TAGGING – No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and retain it in his actual custody while in the field. Crippled birds must be killed immediately. Any birds given to or left with another person must be tagged by the hunter with a tag showing his signature, address, the number and species of birds, and the dates they were killed. Packages in which migratory game birds are shipped must show the names and addresses of the sender and receiver, and the number and species of birds contained in the parcel. (50 CFR 20.25, 20.36, 20.44)

BAG LIMIT – No person may, during any one day, take more than one daily bag limit or possess more than one daily bag limit in the field, or while returning to the car, hunting camp or home. (50 CFR 20.24, 20.35)

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION – No person shall transport any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

IMPORTATION – For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult federal regulations. One fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the port of entry and the hunter's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import any migratory game birds from any country except Canada unless such birds are dressed, drawn and the head and feet are removed. Special regulations govern consignment to an approved and licensed taxidermist. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person. (50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66)

SEASON AND HOURS – No person may take migratory game birds during the closed season. Migratory game birds may be taken only during hours open to hunting. (50 CFR 20.22, 20.23)

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes that they have been discriminated against in any of the AGFD's programs or activities, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the Director's Office, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the Director's Office as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800-367-8939.

Arizona Sandhill Crane Regulations 2010



Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 W. Carefree Highway
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www.azgfd.gov



Sandhill Crane: Commission Order 24

GENERAL SANDHILL CRANE

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
9001	Nov 19 - Nov 21, 2010	(1,2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32	Any sandhill crane	85
9002	Nov 23 - Nov 25, 2010	(1,2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32	Any sandhill crane	85
9003	Nov 27 - Nov 29, 2010	(1,2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32	Any sandhill crane	85
9004	Dec 1 - Dec 3, 2010	(1,2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32	Any sandhill crane	85
Total					340

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICES: Shotgun, crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license and Sandhill Crane Hunt Permit-tag.

SHOOTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

JUNIORS-ONLY SANDHILL CRANE

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
9006	Dec 10 - Dec 12, 2010	(1,2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32 (3 hunt permit-tags issued to each hunter)	Any sandhill crane	25
9007	Dec 10 - Dec 12, 2010	(2,6)	Gillespie Dam Hunt Area in Unit 39 (only 1 hunt permit-tag issued to each hunter for this hunt no.)	Any sandhill crane	9
Total					34

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICES: Shotgun, crossbow or bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license and Sandhill Crane Hunt Permit-tag.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Pursuant to R12-4-318 persons are eligible to participate throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday.

ARCHERY-ONLY SANDHILL CRANE

Open Areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R.S. sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Hunt No.	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife	Permits
9005	Nov 12 - Nov 14, 2010	(2,3,4,5)	30A, 30B, 31 and 32	Any sandhill crane	25
Total					25

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE: Bow and arrow as prescribed in R12-4-304.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license and Sandhill Crane Hunt Permit-Tag.

SHOOTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

Sandhill Crane Notes:

- There will not be a hunter check station for the 2010 seasons. Also, all hunters, successful and unsuccessful, are asked to return the harvest questionnaire following the hunt to help us maintain the harvest database.
- In accordance with R12-4-305 each sandhill crane possessed or being transported shall have a permit-tag attached to its leg or neck and either the fully feathered head or one fully feathered wing shall remain attached until it arrives at the hunter's permanent abode or the place where it is to be consumed.
- An area within the following described boundaries shall be closed to sandhill crane hunting during the sandhill crane season dates: Beginning at Willcox; southeast on AZ Hwy 186 to the Kansas Settlement Road; south on the Kansas Settlement Road to Kimzey Road which runs west from K-S Store (formerly Brown's store) and the cotton gin at the northeast corner of Section 11, Township 16 South, Range 25 East; west along this road alignment to AZ Hwy 191; north on AZ Hwy 191 to Interstate 10; northeast on Interstate 10 to Willcox.
- The area within the following described boundaries shall be closed to sandhill crane hunting. Beginning at the junction of Coffman and Davis roads; south on Coffman road to Bagby road; west along the Bagby road alignment to the intersection of Bagby and posted portions of the Alamo Ranch; north to the boundary with that portion of Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area in Section 30, Township 12 South, Range 26 East; west along the posted portion of the Wildlife Area to Frontier road; north on Frontier road to Davis road; east on Davis Road to the point of origin.
- Units 30A, 30B, 31, and 32 Hunt Area - Sandhill crane hunt permit-tags may be obtained only through application and drawing procedures prescribed in R12-4-104 and the Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule. Successful applicants will receive three (3) sandhill crane hunt-permit tags.
- Gillespie Dam Hunt Area in Unit 39 - that portion of the Gila River corridor in Unit 39 south of Gillespie Dam and north of Gila Bend located within the following townships and ranges: T2S R4W, T2S R5W, T3S R4W, T3S R5W, T4S R4W, and T5S R4W. A mandatory check out is required for this hunt. Sandhill crane hunt permit-tags may be obtained only through application and drawing procedures prescribed in R12-4-104 and the Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule. Successful applicants will only receive one (1) sandhill crane hunt-permit tag.

Hunt permit-tag application process and schedule

Sandhill crane hunt permit-tags may be obtained only through application and drawing procedures as prescribed in R12-4-104 and R12-4-114. Applications for hunt permit-tags shall be made on Hunt Permit-tag Application Forms. In order to participate in the draw you must have or apply for a license. If you are not licensed at the time you submit your Hunt Permit-tag Application Form, you must apply for a license by completing the license form section and include payment with the application. Hunt Permit-tag Applications for sandhill crane will be accepted beginning Aug. 2, 2010, by mail only at the following addresses: P.O. Box 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052; or 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000. Deadline for the Department to receive applications is Aug. 31, 2010. No application will be accepted after this date regardless of postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed out by Sept. 20, 2010.

The hunt permit-tag fee for Hunt No. 9007 is \$7.50 (each hunter will receive 1 hunt permit-tag). The hunt permit-tag fee for all other hunts is \$22.50 (each hunter will receive 3 hunt permit-tags).

SUNRISE/SUNSET 2010

(Times shown are for Willcox, Arizona)

DATE	RISE	SET
Nov. 14	6:48	5:20
Nov. 15	6:49	5:19
Nov. 16	6:49	5:19
Nov. 17	6:50	5:18
Nov. 18	6:51	5:18
Nov. 19	6:52	5:17
Nov. 20	6:53	5:17
Nov. 21	6:54	5:16
Nov. 22	6:55	5:16
Nov. 23	6:56	5:16
Nov. 24	6:57	5:15
Nov. 25	6:57	5:15
Nov. 26	6:58	5:15
Nov. 27	6:59	5:15
Nov. 28	7:00	5:14
Nov. 29	7:01	5:14
Nov. 30	7:02	5:14
Dec. 1	7:03	5:14
Dec. 2	7:03	5:14
Dec. 3	7:04	5:14
Dec. 4	7:05	5:14
Dec. 5	7:06	5:14
Dec. 6	7:07	5:14
Dec. 7	7:07	5:14
Dec. 8	7:08	5:14
Dec. 9	7:09	5:15
Dec. 10	7:10	5:15
Dec. 11	7:10	5:15
Dec. 12	7:11	5:15
Dec. 13	7:12	5:15
Dec. 14	7:12	5:16

The following is a synopsis of Federal Regulations that pertain to the hunting of migratory game birds. Persons requiring more information should go to: www.access.gpo/nara/cfr/. Were they will find a complete version of 50 CFR Part 20. When State law is different from the following Federal law the hunter must comply with the most restrictive law.

What terms do I need to understand?

Migratory Birds are birds protected by federal law as a result of treaties signed with other countries. Protected migratory birds are listed in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section. 10.13. This list includes almost all birds found in the United States with the exception of the house sparrow, feral pigeon (commonly called rock dove), European starling, Eurasian collared-dove, mute swan, and upland game birds (which are protected by state laws).

All migratory birds are protected. However, a subset of migratory birds classified as migratory game birds and may be hunted in accordance with State and Federal regulations. The list of migratory game birds includes species of ducks, geese (including brant), swans, doves and pigeons, cranes, rails, coots, gallinules and moorhens, woodcock and snipe, if there is an open season.

Daily bag limit means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season in any one specified geographic area for which a daily bag limit is prescribed.

Aggregate daily bag limit means the maximum number of migratory game birds permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season when such person hunts in more than one specified geographic area and/or for more than one species for which a combined daily bag limit is prescribed. The aggregate daily bag limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest daily bag limit prescribed for any one species or for any one specified geographic area in which taking occurs.

Possession limit means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed.

Aggregate possession limit means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination of species taken in the United States permitted to be possessed by any one person when taking and possession occurs in more than one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed. The aggregate possession limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest possession limit prescribed for any one of the species or specified geographic areas in which taking and possession occurs.

Personal abode means one's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one's temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip.

Migratory bird preservation facility means:

- (1) Any person who, at their residence or place of business and for hire or other consideration; or
- (2) Any taxidermist, cold-storage facility or locker plant which, for hire or other consideration; or

- (3) Any hunting club which, in the normal course of operations; receives, possesses, or has in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person for purposes of picking, cleaning, freezing, processing, storage or shipment.

Normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation means a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Normal agricultural operation means a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or agricultural practice that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Normal soil stabilization practice means a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for agricultural soil erosion control.

Baited area means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.

Baiting means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

Manipulation means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

Natural vegetation means any non-agricultural, native, or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or other propagules. The term natural vegetation does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the year of planting is considered natural vegetation.

What hunting methods are illegal?

No persons shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machinegun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance;

- With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells.
- From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
- From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance;
- From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased;
- By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl;
- By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.
- By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird;
- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited.

It is legal to take migratory game birds including waterfowl, coots, and cranes, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas:

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics);
- Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or
- Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

It is **legal** to take migratory game birds, **except waterfowl, coots and cranes**, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

Wanton waste of migratory game birds No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

Non-toxic Shot No person may take ducks, geese (including brant), or coots while possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than approved non-toxic shot. For a list of approved non-toxic shot, see www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/issues/nontoxic_shot/nontoxic.htm

Opening Day of a Season No person on the opening day of the season shall possess any freshly killed migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limit, or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies.

Field Possession Limit No person shall possess, have in custody, or transport more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, of migratory game birds, tagged or not tagged, at or between the place where taken and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

Tagging requirement No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating his address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

Custody of birds of another No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Termination of possession Subject to all other requirements of this part, the possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to another person as a gift; or have been delivered by him to a post office, a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

Gift of migratory game birds No person may receive, possess, or give to another, any freshly killed migratory game birds as a gift, except at the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter who took the birds, stating such hunter's address, the total number and species of birds and the date such birds were taken.

Transportation of birds of another No person shall transport migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

Species identification requirement No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

Marking package or container No person shall transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier migratory game birds unless the package or container in which such birds are transported has the name and address of the shipper and the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers of each species of birds therein contained clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.

Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp The law requires that each waterfowl hunter 16 years of age and older must carry on his person a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) that is validated by the hunter signing the stamp in ink across the face of the stamp.

More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges opened to public hunting. For additional information on refuge specific regulations see www.fws.gov/refuges/.